Appendix B "World War I Years" and "Post-World War I Era"

Methodology

Research into activities at the American University Experiment Station was conducted with the full cooperation of archivists at the Washington National Records Center at Suitland, Maryland, and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. At the NARA Suitland Reference Branch, Dr. Richard Boylan, Chief of the Military Reference Branch, and David Pfeiffer, Reference Archivist, assisted in identifying and locating all pertinent records. To examine the voluminous correspondence files in Record Group 70, Records of the Bureau of Mines; Record Group 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers; Record Group 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General; Record Group 156, Records of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance; and Record Group 175, Records of the Chemical Warfare Service, the War Department Decimal File System, 1943 edition, was used to identify specific decimals under which relevant records had been filed by the various originating agencies. These records, identified below, were examined in detail, and all important documents were photocopied for delivery to Operation Safe Removal.

Similar cooperation was received from archivists at the National Archives in Washington, where Reference Archivist Mitchell Yockelson used his expertise in

World War I-era records to identify pertinent materials in Record Group 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers; Record Group 165, Records of War Department General and Special Staffs; Record Group 393, Records of USA Continental Commands, 1821-1925; and Record Group 407, Records of the Adjutant General's Office. As at Suitland, all pertinent records were examined in detail and photocopied for delivery to Operation Safe Removal. During the period covered by this search, Dr. Sude examined 2,049 archives boxes.

Sources

- I. NARA Suitland Reference Branch, Suitland, Maryland.
 - 1. Record Group 70, Records of the Bureau of Mines.

Index to Correspondence Files, 20 boxes.

General Classified and Central Correspondence Files (Decimal File), approximately 155 boxes.

War Gas Investigations, Entries 46, 47, and 48, including Semimonthly Reports, Reports and Other Records, and Summaries of Poison Gas Research, approximately 25 boxes.

2. Record Group 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers.

Military: Decimal System, Camps, Posts, and Stations, Box 6 Entry 103A, Engineer Units at Camp Leach, Boxes 1087-1114.

Entry 104, Military, Board of Engineer Troops, Boxes 1 and 2.

Subject File, 1918-1945. Searched approximately 225 boxes using the following key decimals:

323.7 (Boundaries, Extension and Contraction)

354 (Camps)

354.11 (Establishment of)

354.12 (Discontinuance of)

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600 (Buildings)
 600.1 (Construction)
 600.12 (Projects)
 600.121 (Projects)
 600.122 (Projects)
 600.123 (Projects)
 600.13 (Plans and Specifications)
 600.4 (Buildings and Grounds, Changes)
 600.92 (Blue Prints, Buildings and Grounds)
 600.93 (Boundaries and Reservations)
 600.97 (Destruction of)
 600.971 (by Fire)
 600.972 (by Other Means)
 601 (Land Acquisition)
601.01 (by Deed)
601.2 (by Gift or Donation)
601.3 (by Cession or Grant)
601.53 (by Lease)
602 (Land Disposition)
602.01 (by Deed)
602.1 (by Abandonment)
602.2 (by Sales)
602.5 (by Return to Original Owner)
602.6 (by Restoration to Public Domain)
610 (Grounds, Drainage)
652 (Temporary Buildings)
685 (Camp Sites)
723.13 (Noxious Gases, Air Pollution)
723.22 (Pollution of Grounds)
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Entry 409, 6 Field Survey Notebooks, Box 1, American University Experiment Station/Camp American University/Camp Leach.

3. Record Group 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General.

Construction Division Completion Reports, 1917-1919, Boxes 4, 150.

General Correspondence—Geographic File, Box 1097.

Real Estate Records, 1917-1922, Boxes 144, 702, 722, 738, 743, 696.

General Correspondence—Subject File, 1917–1922, with help of Archivist, Dr. Richard Boylan, Chief of Military Branch, searched approximately 250 boxes using the following key decimals:

323.7 (Boundaries, Extension and Contraction)

354 (Camps)

354.11 (Establishment of)

354.12 (Discontinuance of)

600 (Buildings)

600.1 (Construction)

600.12 (Projects)

600.121 (Projects)

600.122 (Projects)

600.123 (Projects)

600.13 (Plans and Specifications)

600.4 (Buildings and Grounds, Changes)

600.92 (Blue Prints, Buildings and Grounds)

600.93 (Boundaries and Reservations)

600.97 (Destruction of)

600.971 (by Fire)

600.972 (by Other Means)

601 (Land Acquisition)

601.01 (by Deed)

601.2 (by Gift or Donation)

601.3 (by Cession or Grant)

601.53 (by Lease)

602 (Land Disposition)

602.01 (by Deed)

602.1 (by Abandonment)

602.2 (by Sales)

602.5 (by Return for Original Owner)

602.6 (by Restoration to Public Domain)

610 (Grounds, Drainage)

652 (Temporary Buildings)

685 (Camp Sites)

723.13 (Noxious Gases, Air Pollution)

723.22 (Pollution of Grounds).

Unfortunately, records under other key decimals in this correspondence series, specifically 410-499, are not available for examination. According to Dr. Boylan, they were disposed of several years ago.

4. Record Group 112, Records of the Office of the Surgeon General.

Geographic File—Camps (Leach), Boxes 62-63.

5. Record Group 156, Records of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance.

Reports, 2-volume report on weapons tests.

Entry 36, General Correspondence, and Entry 39, Confidential Correspondence, reviewed approximately 450 boxes using the following key decimals:

000.52 (Incendiaries)

314.7 (Histories, Military Posts)

400.7 (Disposition of Supplies and Equipment)

413.77 (Pyrotechnics)

441.2 (Chemicals)

441.5 (Gases)

470.22 (Gas Masks)

470.6 (Gases and Chemicals for Fighting)

470.71 (Weapons, Gas and Chemical)

471 (Gas and Incendiary Ammunition)

471.6 (Incendiary Bombs)

471.86 (Explosives)

476 (Smoke Ammunition)

710 (Gases, Absorption of Deleterious)

6. Record Group 175, Records of the Chemical Warfare Service.

Index Briefs, 10 boxes.

American University Experiment Station, 1 box.

Entry 5, Edgewood Arsenal, Fragmentary Records of Field Units, 6 boxes.

Entry 6, Office Files, Records of Headquarters, Edgewood Arsenal, 1917–1943, approximately 4 boxes.

Entry 7, Edgewood Arsenal, 1917-1945, 6 boxes.

Investigations, 1 box.

Reports, 1 box.

Correspondence, Central Correspondence Files and Secret and Confidential Central Correspondence Files. Examined approximately 400 boxes using the following key decimals:

354 (Camps)

354.11 (Establishment of)

354.12 (Discontinuance of)

400.7 (Disposition of Supplies and Equipment)

441.2 (Chemicals)

441.5 (Gases)

470.6 (Gases and Chemicals for Fighting)

470.71 (Weapons, Gas and Chemical)

471 (Gas and Incendiary Ammunition)

600.93 (Boundaries and Restorations)

600.97 (Destruction of Buildings and Grounds)

601 (Land Acquisition)

601.01 (by Deed)

601.2 (by Gift or Donation)

601.3 (by Cession or Grant)

601.53 (by Lease)

602 (Land Disposition)

602.01 (by Deed)

602.1 (by Abandonment)

602.5 (by Return to Original Owner)

602.6 (by Restoration to Public Domain)

723.13 (Noxious Gases, Air Pollution)

723.22 (Pollution of Grounds)

Technical Documents Files, 1917-1920, 21 boxes.

7. Record Group 394, Records of USA Continental Commands, Engineer, Quartermaster, etc.

Correspondence Files, III Corps Area. Searched approximately 30 boxes using the following key decimals:

470.1 (Ammunition and Armament)

523.8 (Supplies, Ammunition and Explosives)

600.913 (Buildings)

601 (Land Acquisition)

602 (Land Disposition)

II. National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

1. Record Group 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers.

Records of the Central Office, Correspondence, 1789–1942. Examined approximately 35 boxes.

Records of the Central Office, Correspondence, 1917-1945. Examined approximately 15 boxes.

Records of the Central office, Issuances, Orders, 3 boxes.

2. Record Group 165, Records of War Department General and Special Staffs.

Office of the Director of Intelligence (G-2), General Records, Security Classified Subject Index to Series 64-67. Examined approximately 19 boxes.

Entry 58, Boxes 20 and 25.

Military Intelligence Division, Boxes 2480, 2523, 2968, 3014, 3062, 3065, and 3862.

Chemical Warfare Service, 1st Gas and Flame Regiment, Boxes 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310.

Entry 310, Army War College, Records of the Historical Section Relating to the War Department, Boxes 220, 301, 302, 303, 366.

3. Record Group 393, Records of USA Continental Commands, 1821–1920.

Part V, Entry 1, Camp Leach, D.C., Correspondence, 1918, Boxes 1-4.

4. Record Group 407, Records of the Adjutant General's Office. Searched approximately 300 boxes.

Central Decimal Files, 1917-1925, Project Files, Boxes 990, 1199.

Bound Volume Construction Completion Reports, Camp Leach.

III. Architectural and Cartographic Branch, Alexandria, Virginia.

Reviewed maps and aerial photographs of Camp Leach, northwest Washington, and Washington metropolitan area, 24 maps and aerial photographs.